

PRESS RELEASE

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Assigned to Each Case

FEDERAL GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

Madison, Wisconsin -- A federal grand jury in the Western District of Wisconsin, sitting in Madison, returned the following indictments yesterday. You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

FOUR CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ARMED BANK ROBBERIES

Corey J. Thomas, 28, Madison, Prince P. Beck, 25, Madison, Jarrell A. Murray, 23, Chicago, and Lamar Liggins, 21, Chicago, are charged in a four-count indictment with conspiracy to commit armed bank robberies; the robbery of Bank Mutual on Odana Road in Madison on May 9, 2008; the robbery of US Bank in the Town of Blooming Grove, Wis. on May 21, 2008; and with using a firearm, a semi-automatic pistol with an extended magazine, during a crime of violence on May 21, 2008.

The indictment also alleges that the four men, and a co-conspirator not charged in the indictment, conducted surveillance of Bank Mutual in Middleton, Wis. on May 19, 2008, in preparation for a possible robbery of the bank.

If convicted, each man faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison on the conspiracy charge, 25 years on each bank robbery charge, and seven years to be served consecutive to any other prison time on the using a firearm during a crime of violence charge. The charges against them are the result of an investigation by the Dane County Sheriff's Department, the Madison Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Chicago Fugitive Task Force and the U.S. Marshals Service. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Altman and First Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen P. Sinnott.

MADISON MAN CHARGED WITH SIX BANK ROBBERIES

John Kowal, 22, of Madison, is charged in a superseding indictment with six bank robberies. The indictment alleges that he committed the following robberies:

March 19, 2008 - Amcore Bank, Odana Road, Madison;
April 11, 2008 - State Bank of Cross Plains, 8301 University Avenue, Middleton;
May 7, 2008 - State Bank of Cross Plains, 6300 University Avenue, Middleton;
June 17, 2008 - M&I Bank, Monona Drive, Monona;
August 14, 2008 - State Bank of Cross Plains, 6300 University Avenue, and;
September 16, 2008 - Anchor Bank, Westfield Road, Madison.

Kowal had earlier been charged in an indictment returned by the grand jury on September 17, 2008 with the September 16 robbery only.

If convicted, Kowal faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison on each charge. The charges against him are the result of an investigation by the Madison Police Department, Middleton Police Department, and Monona Police Department. The prosecution of Kowal has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney David P. Reinhard.

CALIFORNIA MAN INDICTED ON MARIJUANA CHARGE

Trevor K. Ryan, 29, of Ukiah, Calif., is charged with possessing 50 kilograms or more of marijuana on October 18, 2008. The indictment also seeks the forfeiture of a Piper Aztec twin engine six-seat aircraft, which was allegedly used in the commission of the marijuana charge.

If convicted, Ryan faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement, Iowa County Sheriff's Department, and Mineral Point Police Department. The prosecution of Ryan has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

MADISON MAN CHARGED WITH GUN CRIME

Major T. Lemon, 44, of Madison, is charged with possessing a 9mm semi-automatic firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The indictment alleges that on April 4, 2008, he possessed the firearm while aiding the distribution of heroin.

If convicted, Lemon faces a mandatory minimum penalty of five years and a maximum of life in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation conducted by the Madison Police Department, Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force, and Dane County Sheriff's Department. The prosecution of Lemon has been

assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

ILLINOIS MAN CHARGED WITH GUN CRIME

Tory J. Epps, 33, St. Anne, Ill., is charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm. The indictment alleges that on July 26, 2008, he possessed a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun.

If convicted, Epps faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation conducted by the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department and Eau Claire Police Department. The prosecution of Epps has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

FORT ATKINSON MAN CHARGED WITH GUN OFFENSES

Jesse Sundal, 32, of Fort Atkinson, Wis., is charged in a two-count indictment with two gun crimes. The first count charges him with unlawfully possessing firearms which had obliterated serial numbers, and the second count charges him with being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of firearms. The indictment alleges that on October 5, 2008, he possessed two .45 caliber pistols, two 9mm pistols, and a .40 caliber pistol.

If convicted, Sundal faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison on the first count and 10 years in federal prison for the second count. The charges against him are the result of an investigation conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement. The prosecution of Sundal has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Meredith P. Duchemin.

INDIANA MAN CHARGED WITH MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS

Michael J. Kozlowski, 25, of Schereville, Indiana, a commercial motor vehicle driver, is charged with falsifying his driver's log. Federal regulations required that CMV drivers, in order to comply with limitations regarding the hours a commercial driver can operate his vehicle, must record all daily activities, including the driving time of each driver. The indictment alleges that Kozlowski falsely entered 10 hours of sleeper berth time on 12 separate occasions in August, September and October 2005.

If convicted, Kozlowski faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison on each count charged. The charges against him are the result of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General. The prosecution of Kozlowski has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

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